



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

of taxation in England. It is a well-constructed but rather uncritical compilation of historical data, with a certain interest for the general reader of economic history. The chief value of the book, however, is not so much in its worth as an authoritative treatise, but as an indication of the kind of thoughtful work which it is possible to encourage in colleges which have no elaborate equipment for research purposes. The press work is excellent, although a volume less pretentious in appearance would have seemed more in keeping with the general character and quality of the essay.

HARLEY W. LUTZ.

Oberlin College.

L'Oeuvre Financière du Parlement de 1906 à 1910. Recueil des Principales Questions Budgétaires et Fiscales Traitées par la 9^e Législature. By E. PELLERAY. (Paris: Roustan. 1910. Pp. x, 140. 3 fr.)

M. Pelleray, assistant-secretary to the committee on the budget in the Chamber of Deputies, contributes in this book on the recent financial legislation of France a careful and intelligent piece of work although no pretension is made to any special literary or technical merit. The author seeks merely to present in an accessible form the recent financial budgetary and fiscal legislation of the Republic. The ten introductory pages are given over to a rapid but lucid summary of the work performed by parliament in this regard; and in particular to recent schemes for social welfare. The remainder of the book presents an analytical account of such important features of the financial situation as the public debt; the budgets of 1907-1910; the income tax; the reorganization of railways; and workingman's insurance. Altogether, the work is admirably done, and should prove helpful to all interested in the trend of thought and legislation in France.

W. W. SWANSON.

Queen's University, Kingston.

Die Finanzgeschichte des deutschen Reiches. By EMANUEL WURM. (Hamburg: Hamburger Buchdruckerei und Verlagsanstalt, Auer und Co. 1910. Pp. 272. 1 m.)

The author, who is a socialist and a member of the Reichstag, has collected in this volume material in opposition to the imperial budget program of 1910. Of history in any strict sense it contains but little. But of facts, or alleged facts from any period

which would lend support to the author's contention, there are many. The thesis is that the "financial history of the Empire is also the history of the sufferings of its workingmen."

The book is written in somewhat passionate language, and the style is that of the German newspaper. Violent partisanship appears in every page, and uncomplimentary nicknames are freely hurled at the author's opponents, who not infrequently are charged with being "wretched hypocrites." As few, if any references, barring the numerous quotations from Lassalle's "*Arbeiter-Programm*," are given, it is not always possible to verify the statistics. Yet withal, the book is very readable, and, granted the accuracy of the statistics, makes a plausible argument in support of its thesis. When actual figures fail or are not strong enough for the author's purpose, then it is cheerfully assumed that the particular phenomena "are doubtless very much more numerous than is officially acknowledged."

Entirely aside from the truth or falsity of its violent charges, the book is interesting as showing the feeling of the socialists in relation to the financial program of the coalition of parties at present in control in Germany. The growth of imperial expenditures is first set forth. It is claimed that while the population of the empire grew from 41 to 64.2 millions between 1871 and 1900, or 50 per cent, the peace footing of the army rose from 359,000 to 621,162, or 73 per cent, and the expenses 155 per cent. But with all this increased expense the common soldier gets "no more than he had before, 22 pfennige daily," (a statement obviously strained). But the officers are provided for and have a comfortable pension so that "their joyfulness in the service may not be allowed to vanish."

The taxes are taken up in the same spirit. To find a point in his favor the author goes outside the field laid down in his title and decries the Prussian income tax as exempting as the minimum of subsistence only 900 marks, while the British income tax exempts £150 (we supposed it was £160), "or 3200 marks" (another slight inconsistency). On the protective tariff Marx's "endless screw" is cited as authorization for socialistic opposition. It is asserted that the grain duties benefit solely "a little flock of rich, large, and moderate landowners" who make bread dear for the laborer. In the same way the beneficiaries of all the other duties are "rich" while the poor are mulcted. The most vitriolic abuse is poured on the new liquor and beer taxes. The liquor tax re-

dounds, it is asserted, mainly to the benefit of counts, princes, and kings, "and Bismarck was a prince." The conclusion was a foregone one before a single "statistic" was misquoted. It is: "Socialism alone can bring about the freeing of the working classes."

C. C. P.

University of California.

Die deutschen Getreidezölle. Eine Denkschrift. By LUJO BRENTANO. Second edition. (Stuttgart and Berlin: J. G. Cotta'sche Buchhandlung Nachfolger. 1911. Pp. 124.)

The original contribution by Brentano on the German grain duties was prepared for the Free Trade Congress which met in Antwerp in August, 1910. The second edition contains answers to various objections raised by members of the Agrarian and Center parties. The statistical appendix has also been enlarged and improved, and now forms about a third of the work (pp. 83-124), offering the best single collection of statistical material relating to German agricultural protection. The extensive foot-notes also refer to most of the literature on the subject.

At the beginning of the nineteenth century from 75 per cent to 80 per cent of the German people were occupied in agriculture. Though much land was not cultivated, yet considerable grain was exported, made possible because of the low standard of living. From 1800 till 1900 there was an increase of 43 per cent in cultivated land and 35 per cent in grain lands, due largely to the disuse of fallowing. Enough poor land, however, was brought under the plow to hold down the average yield per acre, compared with England. Most of this increase in acreage occurred before 1878; while from 1878 to 1900, the increase in plowland was only 0.99 per cent, against an increase in population of 29 per cent. In other words pressure was then transferred to the intensive margin. As a result, wheat imports began to prevail after 1876; and at the same time prices declined rapidly, owing to the westward movement of population and consequent extension of grain growing in America, after the panic of 1873; and also because of the concurrent cheapening of transportation both by land and sea. This fall in prices, causing a crisis in German agriculture, converted the German agrarians, who had hitherto formed the backbone of the free-trade party, into ultra protectionists. Bismarck was thus enabled, in 1878, to establish an alliance between the agrarians and manufacturers, based on protection, which put